provided by NABARD to Cooperative Banks in some of the drought affected States aggregated to Rs. 180.51 crores as on 15th November, 2002 as per details furnished below:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	Amount sanctioned
1	Andhra Pradesh	7298.00
2	Orissa	1460.89
3	Tamil Nadu	2439.00
4	Madhya Pradesh	2245.50
5	Rajasthan	4608.00*
	TOTAL:	18051.39

*Provisional.

Compensation to drought affected cultivators

348. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the foodgrains production has been reduced this time on account of severe drought in different parts of the country;

(b) the number of cultivators falling prey to drought;

(c) the compensation extended to the affected cultivators and the amount thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the details of extent of efforts made and assistance accorded for alternative crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) According to the first advance estimates of crop production during 2002-03 as on 12.11.2002, the foodgrains production during kharif 2002-03 is expected to be 90.64 million tonnes as compared to 111.51 million tonnes estimated during kharif 2001-02.

(b) No assessment is available about the number of cultivators having been affected by drought particularly in view of the fact that revival of monsoon in August resulted in late sowing of paddy and other crops in many areas.

(c) and (d) In order to compensate the farmers for the losses suffered in unirrigated areas and the additional expenditure incurred in irrigated areas, the Government announced Special Drought Relief Price ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 per quintal over and above the Minimum Support Prices announced for kharif crops of 2002-03.

As regards the alternative crops, States have been requested to take measures aimed at making seeds of alternative crops available to farmers at the appropriate time. The States have also been asked to take steps aimed at facilitating the timely flow of institutional credit to the farmers.

Set back in Kharif season by drought

349. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO:
SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was serious set back in agricultural operations during the recent Kharif season due to widespread and prolonged dry spell in the country;

(b) if so, the details regarding extent of crop loss, loss of livestock and human lives and shortfall in Kharif production thereby State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the details of Central assistance sought by various State Governments for relief works; and

(d) the relief measures taken by Government and the details of Central assistance provided, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) At present, estimates have been undertaken for the country as a whole